

David Charles'

Boston Vintage Sports Flashback

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MAY 13, 1918

SOX WIN, 7-5, DESPITE ST. LOUIS' BIG PARADE

Bush Mislays His Control but Mates Save Him

By Edward F. Martin, *The Boston Globe*

When one gets a parade tossed in with the ball game one should worry if one has to wait 2 hours and 20 minutes to see how the battle is going to terminate. Yesterday 17 members of the "St. Looney" Browns, champion drillers of the Johnson League, passed in review before the fans. Fielder Jones himself being officer of the day, but they could not win the decision, the Sox coping, 7 to 5.

The Browns died fighting. They had the bases choked in the final inning when Scott made a speedy play at first on pinch hitter Johns, holding the game in for the Barrowmen.

Skipper Jones covered a lot of ground down around that third base coaching pen. He had several more athletes who did not get into the parade, but they deserve honorable mention. Urban Shocker and George Hale particularly in as much as they played a lot of baseball in the bullpen that does not get them anything in the averages.

Bullet Joe Bush was the Red Sox server and he must have mislaid his control somewhere. All that saved Joe from losing the ball game was the batting of his teammates and a wonderful play by Scotty. The speed merchant came perilously close to putting the game in hock several times. He passed seven men, but refused to be downhearted.

Stuffy McInnis was switched back to first and Fred Thomas went to the torrid corner. This change is only temporary, as Manager Barrow is still certain that Stuffy will develop into a top-notch third sacker. With Hobby injured and Ruth due to pitch today, Barrow had to make the shift.

Five boxmen worked for the Browns. Sothoron was wigwagged to the dugout before the first inning was over, and Tom Rogers, Dave Davenport, the veteran Lefty Liefield and Bryan Houck followed, Dave being canned in the fifth when he put himself on a rocky road.

The Sox pasted the ball hard, hitting safely in every inning, Strunk, Shean, Scott and Whiteman doing most of the thumping.

Scott's play in the fourth was a bird. One run had scored, three were on and two out when Tobin lashed the agate through the box toward center; but the Bluffton Kid pussyfooted over, speared it with the gloved hand and tossed him out. Another feature was Hooper's great catch of Demmitt's liner in the ninth.

A pass to Hooper and singles by Shean and Strunk packed the bases in the first, and Whiteman's double between Demmitt and Tobin cleared them, Whitey being out trying to make it a triple. McInnis and Thomas hit safely in this frame and Agnew reached on a fumble, but there was no more scoring.

The Browns scored in the fourth, when Stuffy dropped Smith's hoist; Demmitt singled, Gedeon sacrificed and Nunamaker and Hendryx walked, the latter gift forcing in the tally.

Scott's single drove in Strunk and Whiteman in the fourth. Amos had tripled and Whitey was passed and stole second.

Austin's infield rap, Smith's double and Gedeon's single gave the Browns two in the fifth, but the Sox got them back in the same inning, when Hooper strolled and Shean singled, both scoring when Tobin dropped Whitey's liner.

In the seventh Austin walked and took third on Sisler's single, scoring when a Red Sox committee was getting "Sis" between first and second. A double by Austin and singles by Sisler and Smith produced another St. Louis run in the ninth.

JUNE 26, 1984

SOX SUBDUE ORIOLES, 5-2

By Larry Whiteside, *The Boston Globe*

His awakening came three starts ago when he was shelled by New York in just 1 2/3 innings. Rookie Al Nipper decided that night in Yankee Stadium that his only chance for success was to be the aggressor and not worry about the consequences.

It took two more starts for the breaks to go his way. But, finally, Nipper's new patience was rewarded last night with a 5-2 Red Sox victory over the tough Baltimore Orioles, his first win of the 1984 season in six tries.

A crowd of 27,115 watched in stunned silence as Nipper pitched a no-hitter through five innings, while the Red Sox pounded on Orioles' ace Mike Boddicker.

Nipper pitched well, in fact, until the seventh, when he tired and gave way to relief ace Bob Stanley. By then, the Orioles were weary from a steady diet of sinkers, sliders and screwballs from 25-year-old Nipper, and they were no match for Stanley, either. With his palmball dancing like days of old, Stanley limited the Orioles to one hit and one walk in 2 2/3 innings. He picked up his 13th save of the season and first in two weeks.

"For me," exclaimed Nipper, who pinned the Orioles with their third straight defeat, "it's a great feeling. I went out aggressively like I knew I had to do. I wanted to establish myself

inside, because if I did that, it would mean I had more room on the other half later in the game.

"In New York, I really felt bad. I came to the conclusion that I hadn't been aggressive enough, and the only way I was going to win was to pitch that way. I wasn't timid, but I was being too fine. The thing for me to do, I felt, was to go right after the hitters, and that is exactly what I did."

Certainly, a man who pitches no-hit ball for five innings must have an aggressive philosophy. But Nipper had that and more last night, striking out a career-high six batters.

Nipper said he changed speeds on his breaking balls, and what looked like a fat fastball turned out to be a screwball that dove away from lefthanded hitters. Baltimore began to solve his style in the sixth, when Rich Dauer broke up the no-hitter with a one-out double to left and scored on a two-out single by Jim Dwyer.

But the Sox already had four runs on the board and should have had more off Boddicker, who allowed nine hits. He was spared more damage thanks to good defensive plays by Al Bumbry (in the first) and Young (in the sixth), robbing Jim Rice and Tony Armas, respectively, of extra-base hits.

Boddicker, who only last week had been masterful in changing speeds to beat the Red Sox in Fenway Park, 4-1, was off with his control, and the Red Sox weren't swinging at bad pitches. After threatening in the second and third, Boston took the lead for keeps in the fourth inning on a double by Mike Easler and a single by Bill Buckner, his 1999th career hit and his first game-winner in the American League. Buckner scored on a clutch single by Marty Barrett.

The Red Sox got two more runs in the fifth to chase Boddicker. Wade Boggs, back on the beam with three hits, opened with a single and scored all the way from first on a hit-and-run single by Dwight Evans, as Bumbry booted the ball in center field.

When Rice followed with a triple, scoring Evans, Boddicker was lifted in favor of Tom Underwood, who snuffed out the uprising by retiring three straight lefthanders - Easler, Buckner and Rich Gedman. However, Underwood gave up the fifth Red Sox run in the eighth inning, after Baltimore had pulled to within 4-2 in the seventh.

It was in the seventh inning that Neudecker made the ruling that perhaps saved Stanley from repeating one of his less-than-terrific performances of the last two weeks. After Nipper gave up back-to-back singles to Ken Singleton and Mike Young with one out, the Sox knew a change was in order. Pitching coach Lee Stange went to the mound to stall for time, with Stanley not quite ready.

Stange was heading back toward the dugout when he saw manager Ralph Houk waving for him take out Nipper, because Stanley was now ready. Plate umpire John Hirshbeck first ruled that once Stange left the mound, Nipper had to face one more batter. But Hirshbeck checked with Neudecker, who said because Stange hadn't crossed the white line, he could remove Nipper.

"Neudecker told me," said Orioles manager Joe Altobelli, "that he (Stange) hadn't crossed the white line, and the only thing he could call was delay of the game. What did he think all that stalling and arguing was about? If Hirshbeck hadn't asked him, we'd have gotten one more crack at Nipper."

AUGUST 18, 1945

BRAVES OUTSCORE REDS 13-10, IN WILD HITTING GAME

14 Runs Scored in 1st Inning; Alderholt Is Big Gun for B's

By Harold Kease, The Boston Globe

Never miss the first inning of a ball game! If you were tardy as the Braves beat the Reds, 13-10, at Braves Field yesterday, you missed 14 runs, 16 hits, two home runs, nine-tenths of the fun and three pitchers - Al Javery, Howard Fox, Earl Harrist.

The Braves won that rousing first inning, 9-5, time of fall being 35 minutes. The Reds were still admiring themselves in the mirror after blasting five tallies of Javery, when the Braves stepped up and made them feel like midgets by scoring nine times.

Just think, if every inning had duplicated the first, the final score would have been Braves 72, Reds 45. But the game became normal after the first inning, and John Hutchings, who relieved Javery, squirmed out of some tight spots over the last eight innings to win his sixth game.

This was an appropriate ending to a series in which the Braves out-scored the Reds, 42-31; out-homered them, 9-6, and out-hit them, 72-57, to win three games of five.

Aderholt Is Star

Morris Aderholt, nre Braves left fielder, led the Tribe to their victory, making three hits and batting in five runs, three of them with his first home run. Aderholt made 13 hits in 22 times at bat for a .591 average in the series.

Javery pitched to eight men, two of whom lined out, five of whom singled, and one of whom homered. Tipton drove the ball over the left field wall with Williams and McCormick on base. When Miller, Mesner and Lakeman singled immediately thereafter, Hutchings entered his seventh game in the last seven playing days.

The five-run start had everyone down but the Braves. Weitelman walked, Shupe lined out and Holmes singled. Aderholt then homered against the wind. Already it was a ball game.

Workman was hit by a pitch, Gillenwater doubled and Hofferth singled them both home, tying the score, 5-5. Harrist, a newcomer, relieved Fox, and Culler promptly doubled, scoring Hofferth.

Hutchings bounced out, but Weitelmann doubled Culler home, and Shupe singled Whitey across. When Holmes singled, Lisenbee relieved Harrist. Aderholt singled, his second hit of the inning, and Shupe scored.

Singles by Weitelmann, Shupe, and Aderholt, Williams' error on Holmes' grounder, and Gillenwater's double gave the Braves four runs in the third and a 13-5 lead. This was enough for Hutchings, even though Miller homered with two on in the fifth.

WARHOOPS - There will be a floor show at Braves Field today, featuring such artists as Steve Harrington, Loretta Gene Perry, and Clarence Jackson. . . .O, yes, there will also be two

ball games. The Braves meet the cardinals. Remember them - the world champions? . . . Bill Lee and Bob Logan are the probable Braves starters.

* * *

Nate Andrews did not report at the ball park. the Braves issued no official communique on his three-day absence. . . .With their staff riddled, the Braves have signed Bob Whitcher, 26-year old southpaw who has been pitching for the Fraser All-Stars in Lynn; and who was in the Braves farm system about five years ago. . . .Dick Sipek, Cincinnati outfielder, was given a pen and pencil set by the Boston Deaf Club. Sipek is deaf, but said, "Thank you," two of the few words he can speak, over the amplifying system.

JUNE 6, 1951

MUELLER BATS IN FOUR RUNS AS BRAVES BEAT PIRATES, 5-2

**Spahn Hurls 5-Hitter; Kiner Collects Single,
Double and 13th Home Run**

By Hy Hurwitz, The Boston Globe

The Braves ended a five-game losing streak with a 5 to 2 win over Pittsburgh last night at Braves Field.

Warren Spahn made sure that none of the Braves' juvenile bullpen crew was needed, pitching a five-hitter for his sixth win. Ray Mueller did the catching and clouting, batting in four runs.

Mueller singled in one run in the third, two in the fifth, and his fly to Pete Reiser brought in one in the seventh.

Only Ralph Kiner gave Spahn any trouble, getting his 13th homer, a double and a single.

Cliff Chambers, who pitched a no-hit, no-run game against the Braves a month ago, yesterday was belted hard.

Luis Marquez opened with a double down the right field line and scored on Torgeson's single.

In the third Torgeson doubled and Bob Elliott walked. Sid Gordon advanced them with a fly to Gus Bell in right and Mueller singled in Torgeson home.

Torgeson was hit by a pitched ball and Elliott walked in the fifth. Gordon's fly to Bell moved them up and Mueller's single scored them.

In the seventh Torgeson and Elliott walked and Gordon beat out a bunt. Mueller flied to Reiser and Torgeson scored.

Kiner doubled off the fence in left to start the fourth and scored on Westlake's single. Kiner homered in the sixth.

Rubber game of the series will be played at 2 this afternoon. Vern Bickford and Mel Queen are the expected starters.

SHORT STUFF - Bell did some tremendous right fielding. . . .He robbed Gordon of an extra base hit by climbing the bull pen screen in the third. He took another away from Buddy Kerr in the same inning. . . .Kiner had reached safely eight straight times in the two games when he flied out in the ninth. . . .He had homered, hit three doubles, two singles and walked twice. . . .He

gained 20 points in the two games as his BA shot up to .359.

JANUARY 29, 1935

TINY THOMPSON GETS HIS SIXTH SHUTOUT

**Bruins Have Upper Hand Against Americans
From the Start Einning by 4 to 0**

By Gerry Moore, The Boston Globe

In a gentlemanly contest, the Bruins hung it on the hapless New York Americans, 4 to 0, before about 6500 customers at the Garden last night.

The game was a far cry from the wildeyed affair with the Maroons the week before and the Bruins went about their work with neatness and dispatch, scoring twice in the opening period and once in each of the other two to draw within a single point of the idle, pace-setting Chicago Hawks in the American Division race.

Despite the debut of two new faces in their lineup, the Amerks showed little of the spark and aggressiveness of their last visit here when they dropped a thrilling 4 to 3 verdict to the locals and it wasn't hard to see why the A's have met with seven defeats and two ties in their last nine starts.

Mates Help "Tiny"

The visitors did try hard to prevent a shut-out, but his Bruin mates fought to the end to help "Tiny" Thompson, brilliant Boston goaler, to his sixth shut-out of the season. "Tiny" did some yoeman work himself in reaching his goal.

By the defeat, the Amerks remained still two points behind the third place Canadiens in the Canadian Division and have played three more games than the Habitants.

Only "Babe" Siebert, the defense man. With two assists, got more than a single point so well did the Bruins divide up the scoring assignments.

Manager Frank Patrick's athletes went right out from the opening bell and the first line came through with one of their early goals which fast are becoming patented.

It was at 1:16, to be exact, that "Black Marty" Barry beat "Schrimp" Worters for the first time. Max Kaminsky, after a pass from "Dit" Clapper at center ice, had carried to the defense where he was stopped. The puck went through, however, and Barry, a trailer, raced around the defense and picked the loose rubber up.

Pass From "Peggy"

Then in their first tenure in office, Jack Shill and "Peggy" O'Neil of the sometimes forgotten third line, decided to take a hand in the scoring. O'Neil carried down, but was stopped at the defense. He whirled around and saw Shill cutting across behind the defense, from the left lane to the right. Astute "Peggy" whipped the puck onto Shill's blade and Kack eased the disk under the falling Worters at 10:56.

The third goal was the most colorful of the night. Bert McInenly, blond spare defense man, had been evicted for an

innocent looking check of "Red" Dutton, the star Amerk. Neither Bertie nor the rest of the Bruins took to the sentence lightly and ragued at length with Referee Mike Rodden. Still McInenly had to go.

He was to be rewarded, however. Just as his time was up and he stepped out of the penalty box, Siebert was going by with only Alex Smith, the old Bruin, between him and Worters. McInenly merely raced over, grabbed the puck as Smith tried to take it away from Siebert and coasted in, unhindered, on Worters to beatr the "Shrimp" at 18:39 in the middle period. It was all the more wonderful, because it was only McInenly's second goal for the B's.

That Fourth Goal

Actually the Bruins weren't trying too hard to score when they rapped home the fourth counter. However, Siebert jumped a three-man Amerk attack with Capt Nels Stewart with him. Bad Bill Brydgc and Freddy Hergert, the latter one of the two recruits, were left on defense.

Siebert carried up and Stewart sneaked far outside the points. "Babe" neatly passed the puck over to his captain and Nels idled in on Worters, picked out a corner in his calm manner and fired home at 7:27 in the final period.

MARCH 22, 1975

ORR HAT TRICK SPARKS 8-2 WIN

By Tom Fitzgerald, The Boston Globe

It was scarcely one of the classics of the season, but it surely was an ideal occasion to bring the family into the Garden.

The Capitals set an NHL record with their 15th loss in a row. The old mark was set in 1930-31 by the Philadelphia Quakers.

The score was Boston 8, Washington 2, which was quite enough, even if there were a few greedy characters who thought it shold have gone into double figures.

Nobody could have been unhappy, though, and there was very special delight for the young folks who comprised a large segment of the capacity gathering of 15,003.

The teenies really had themselves a time because they watched bobby Orr produced another of his hat tricks, the fourth time this season and the ninth of his career.

None of this has become really routine for the game's greatest player, and Orr had a reciprocal thing going with the youthful admirers.

"It was really great," Orr said. "Three goals is always good, but I really got a kick out of all those kids screaming. There must have been more of them here tonight than I can ever remember except in a clinic.

"I hope they like it," he added.

There wasn't any doubt at all that they did, and the kids were too worked up to recall the details. Here is the way Bobby scored those three goals (which, with an additional assist, kept him at the top of the league individual list at 128 points):

Second period, 0:44, conversion of a Wayne Cashman rebound from close in at the left behind goalie Ron Low; 7:40, a

30-footer down the slot about waist-high at Low's left; third period, 1:17, a 50-foot blast to the stick side.

So much for those contributions, and there were others as coach Don Cherry noted in calling this "another solid game when we kept playing our game without trying to run it up."

It was a night for scoring defensemen. While Orr was boosting his total to 42, Carol Vadnais got to 19 and Dallas Smith to three. Both of these were adroit finishes from.

The other goals were by Ken Hodge, Johnny Bucyk, and Bobby Schmautz. The Bucyk goal in the opening period was the 1220th point in the Chief's career, placing him fifth in the all-time scoring list ahead of Jean Beliveau. Johnny improved that with a later assist.

Gilles Gilbert was back in goal for Boston, and while he wasn't overburdened, considering the shot totals of 41 for Boston and 19 for the Caps, it was a satisfactory kind of thing.

He was beaten in the second period by old friend Ace Bailey. "I moved over on (Bob) Gryp and I just was too late getting back on Bailey," Gilbert said. Stan Gilbertson also scored for Washington late in the third.

MARCH 2, 1960

CELTS BOMB WILT & CO.

Sharman Gets 31 in Eighth Win Over Philly, 133-119

By Jack Barry, The Boston Globe

Bill Sharman, clicking for 31 points in a tremendous shooting exhibition, teamed with play-making Bob Cousy and rebounder bill Russell to pace the Celtics to their sixth straight victory, 133 to 119, over the Philadelphia Warriors before 8572 at the Garden last night.

It was the Celts eighth win in 13 games against Philly.

In the co-feature the Minneapolis Lakers hung the ninth consecutive setback on the New York Knicks, 123 to 113. Minneapolis needs but one victory to clinch the third-place playoff spot in the Western sector.

Sharman scored on 14 field goals in 22 tries, scoring 13 points in the second period and sparking Boston to its winning third period surge with 16.

Cousy was again proficient in leading the Boston fast-break triggered by Russell's great rebounding as the giant center out-rebounding Wilt Chamberlain, 33 to 25.

Chamberlain, playing the whole route as did Russell, emerged the night's high scorer with 39.

The Stilt also was tops in blocking shots, knocking astray 14 Boston tries.

The game was decided in the third period which the Celtics entered leading by a slim 61 to 59 margin.

The Celtics were in front, 74 to 73, at the four-minute mark, when they got hot, to outscore the Warriors, 22 to 13.

In the spree, Sharman, hitting patented soft-jumpers and completing run-ins on neat Cousy assists, totaled 12 points, with Russell having four.

Johnny Richter, who played well subbing for the absent

Frank Ramsey (who suffered a case of food poisoning) came through with two key baskets in the third-period rally.

Frank Ramsey, stricken with food poisoning, did not dress for the game.

DECEMBER 11, 1963

C's REBUFF HAWKS

Havlicek Scores 33 as Boston Takes 19th in 21

By Cliff Keane, The Boston Globe

And now it's nine in a row at home and 19 wins in 21 games for the Celtics. The 104 to 95 win over the Hawks at the Garden Wednesday night didn't come too easily, though.

Maybe it was the sight of only 3250 in the place that slowed down the wonder team of basketball.

But the game was wisely played by the visitors.

When the Hawks - those old bitter rivals - showed up they were missing three of their talented players, Cliff Hagan, Zelmo Beaty and John Barnhill. But without these men, coach Harry Gallatin had the rest of his group walk through their paces, and it almost told on the Celtics.

With only three minutes to go in the game, the Celtics led by only three points, and Bill Russell, Johnny Havlicek and K.C. Jones had gone without rest.

But Russell got the ball under the basket and dunked in a shot with Bob Pettit draped over him. The foul attempt by Bill was missed. But Havlicek, who had 33 points for the night, got the rebound and tossed it in.

Thus ended any hope the visitors might have of accomplishing the near-impossible.

The Hawks trailed by 17 points in the late stages of the third period. But they got some unexpected help from Mike Farmer, who rarely takes a shot at the basket. Once Mike got the urge to throw the ball up rather than devote all his time to playing defense, the Hawks rallied around Pettit for a while.

But that dunk by Russell was a bit too much for the Hawks, who aren't the aggressive team of the past without Hagan, badly-trained foot, Beaty, leg in a cast, and Barnhill, sniffing with a bad attack of the flu along with numerous other aches.

Russell wound up with another fruitful rebounding night. He had 30 to Pettit's 23.

The Hawks also had a little trouble with an old nemesis, referee Mendy Rudolph. Mendy took away Christmas money amounting to \$25 from Gallatin and Lennie Wilkins in the first period on technicals.

The next time the Celtics are at home will be Saturday night when they face the Cincinnati Royals.

Boston Vintage Sports Flashback

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DECEMBER 15, 1971

ALL HANDS HOIST CELTICS, 112-100

By Bob Ryan, The Boston Globe

This had to be one of the finest Celtic team efforts of the year. Whenever you get 20 points or better from four different people (including your "defensive" specialist), whenever you come into a big game against a tough opponent and execute the way you know you must, whenever you get the contributions from everyone who played the way the Celtics did last night against the Sonics, then it's time to call it a "team victory."

The score was 112-100, which tells you very little about the interesting (at least to the Celtics and their fans) game seen by 9225 Celtic-Globetrooper enthusiasts. To pull it out, the Celtics had to make the most out of Seattle mistakes, which they most certainly did.

Again the third quarter was a big one for the Celtics. From a 65-65 tie with 8:36 remaining, the Celtics sprinted to an 87-77 three-quarter lead, with a run of 10 straight providing the impetus. Strangely enough, the spurt commenced with the near-simultaneous (14 seconds apart) calling of the fourth personal foul on both Dave (21 points, 14 rebounds) Cowens and Don (22 points, "Neutralize-Lenny-Wilkins") Chaney. That boosted the score to 75-65, and the Sonics never came closer than six (75-69) again.

Not that the Celtics waltzed home. They needed to play rugged defense to make sure the lead would hold up, which they did.

Snyder is supposed to be a shooter, but even he had to be a little surprised when his 35-foot fall away at the buzzer swished cleanly to pull tough Seattle within three points in the first half.

The Celtics had a 57-50 lead following (What Can He Do For An Encore?) John Havlicek's sixth consecutive field goal of the second quarter. But two free throws by player-coach Wilkins, during which he induced Dave Cowens into his third personal (and second in 27 seconds) were followed by a Celtics turnover. Wilkins threw the ball to Don Kojis at midcourt. He saved the ball with a backwards bounce pass, and Snyder did the rest, leaving Boston ahead by a 57-54 score.

The two teams came out running; there was no doubt about that. The Sonics took advantage of some excellent defensive rebounding by both center Don Smith and Spencer Haywood, both of whom know what to do with the ball when they get it. Their outlet passes were on target, usually to Wilkins, who also knows what to do with the ball when he gets it.

Seattle amassed a seven-point lead at 23-16 before the Celtics answered with nine straight points, finally taking their first lead since 2-0 on a Nelson dive at 25-23. The quarter ended with the clubs deadlocked at 25-all.

Until Havlicek launched his nightly heroics in the last 5:07, scoring six of Boston's last seven hoops of the quarter, the biggest second-quarter margin for either club was four, but Havlicek boosted the Celtics into an eight-point lead at 55-47 and again to a seven-point bulge at 57-50.

After an eye-opening first quarter, in which all four of his hoops came from 18 feet or better, Haywood disappeared in the second period. For the first four minutes, you'd never know he was out there. When he picked up his third personal at the 4:37

mark, he went to the bench. Then it must be said, the club really started to have problems.

Chaney had the crowd swinging back and forth. They couldn't decide whether to boo him or cheer him, since he split his time on offense between blowing easy layups or making tough overhead baseline drives. His defense, however, was vital, since no other Celtic can cope with Wilkens, who is the key to the Seattle attack.

JANUARY 11, 1983

CELTICS RACK IT UP, 139-117

By Dan Shaughnessy, The Boston Globe

If the Puerto Rican authorities ever get their hands on Indiana University coach Bobby Knight, they needn't punish him with a lengthy incarceration or a steep fine. They could merely make him watch round-the-clock replays of last night's 139-117 Celtics victory over the Golden State Warriors.

If you like roller derby, pinball and the Denver Nuggets, this was your kind of game. The Warriors stood around and watched the Celtics shoot 60 percent (59 for 98) as Robert Parish poured in 33 points, Larry Bird got away with insulting blind passes, and the guard tandem of Danny Ainge and Quinn Buckner came through with its best game of the season.

First- and third-quarter explosions enabled the Celtics to win their sixth straight - and made you wonder why the Warriors rank no lower than 16th in NBA team defense.

In the first quarter the Celtics shot 72 percent (18 for 25) and broke to a 43-33 lead. With Parish scoring 21 on 9-of-11 shooting, the Celtics kept scoring for the first six minutes of the second half and increased their margin to 57-43.

Then Purvis Short (21 points in the first half) and Joe Barry Carroll, who could have been a Celtic if Red Auerbach hadn't settled for Parish and McHale, brought the Warriors back to within two, 68-66, at halftime.

Enter Messrs. Ainge and Buckner. After Carroll (37 points) tied it with a first-minute bucket to open the third quarter, the ex-third baseman and ex-defensive back blew the Warriors off the floor in the next 12 minutes.

First Cedric Maxwell took a feed from Buckner and jammed. Then Ainge hit a jumper and a tap-in. Then Buckner scored off the run after an Ainge steal. Surges of 8-2, 8-1 and 8-2 forced Golden State coach Al Attles to call three timeouts, but nothing worked for the weary, undermanned visitors.

When the quarter was over, the Celtics had outscored the Warriors, 39-20, to take a 107-86 lead. Boston hit 16 of 23 (70 percent) floor shots in the period. Buckner, who finished with nine assists and four steals, and Ainge combined for 20 of Boston's 39.

It was no coincidence that with Buckner and Ainge on the floor in the first and third periods, the Celtics outscored Golden State, 82-53.

Parish, who had a game-high 13 rebounds against his old teammates, said, "I think they're definitely a lot smoother. They look more relaxed and seemed to know each other well. When they play that well together, defensively especially, it takes the pressure off the inside people and keeps us out of foul trouble."

"We got off breaks and steals," said Ainge, who finished with 20 points, 7 assists and 5 rebounds. "That's when Quinn and I play our best."

"We like to get some offense from our defense," added Buckner. "The more times you get out and run, the better percentages you get."

Poor Attles, who watched his fifth-place Warriors slump to 15-22, could only say, "Every one of their people can run and handle the ball well on the break. They kept sending people at us. Unfortunately, they only give you seven timeouts."

For the 93d consecutive assembled mass of 15,320, the highlight came when Ainge fought off a couple of treetop Warriors, came down with a defensive rebound, drove three-quarters of the length of the floor and threaded a bounce pass through a sea of legs, hitting Maxwell in stride for a fast-break layup and a 101-81 lead.

"I had a tough pass and it had to be on the money," said Ainge, "but we call Max 'Gloves.' He's got the best hands on the team."

The only suspense of the fourth quarter involved Darren Tillis, Bill Fitch's human victory cigar. Dr. D came in with 2:53 left, and after missing two free throws and heaving an air ball, scored his first points since Dec. 8 - on two free throws and a jump shot.